

# A PITHHY NOTE

to Papists all and some  
that toy in feltons Martirdome.  
Desiring them to read this and to iudge  
& not in spite at simple truth to grudge.

Set forth by one that knew his  
life, and was with him at the houre of  
his death, which was the viii.

of August. Anno. 1570.

at the

west end of Paules Church over aga.  
inst the Bishops gate, where  
he set vp the Bul.



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Saint Mildreds Church in the  
Pultrie the xxii. of August  
by John Alde,

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**L**ong lenitie abuse, at lēgth  
doth lend deserued hire:  
whē mercy ouer mou'd with  
gins hidle Justice ire. (vice

**A**s now may wel discerned be

Unto the smart of such  
As heaped by vnfruteful hope  
and pitie prou'd to much.

**B**ut so it is when follyes flud  
makes wisdom lowe at eb:  
And where for hartyloue such do  
winde by soule Treasons web.

**A**s Felton fond hath surely felt  
for fault of treason hye:  
So all wil vouch whose hart? (with God  
and Prince) are not awzie

**A**nd as y Norton's twain did taste  
of late for like offence:

**W**hom Iusticie paid by portion iust  
a righteous recompence.

**B**et Felton pass, when wilful deed  
of his was wel deserved:

For why? he neuer blusht for shame,  
nor much the same denyed.

**T**he Bul bewitcht his caluish bzaine  
And Pius his dēer god:

Made him to bolde for his behalf,  
to taste of such a rod.

**H**e durst presume good Catholick,  
t' erect by foraine power:

Al.

And

And Subiects faithfull hart? Now wel  
by flattery to deuoure.

¶ As though at once all Englañd would  
haue shꝛuk at Pius curse:

And that the Childe at strangers beck  
would leaue his painful nurse.

¶ The blessing of the Pope he thought  
would sure haue take such place:

That English men with Cap and knee  
would straight the same embrace.

¶ What ment he els to fix the Bul  
on Bishops Pallatice gate:

But that he thought by somes return  
to mend his owne estate.

¶ But English men God haue y praise  
with rather his curse still:

Then with his blessing to receiue  
bothe soule and bodys ill.

¶ Gods curse dweth light where he dweth  
as Malachi dweth tel: (bless

As Felton and and the rest haue tried  
which seru'd the Pope ful wel.

¶ But Papists say they are moſte bleſſ  
foz dying in his cause:

Because he wil their soules redent  
from hel and Sathans clawes.

¶ And Felton chee fly they commend  
Foꝝ his coragious minde:

Which vnto Pope and holy Church  
did shew him self so kinde.

¶ Herfoꝝ

**¶** Therefore a blessed Martyr they  
do rightly him confesse:

**¶** Which moues me moſte for vertues  
to proue him nothing leſſe. (ſake)

**¶** For eu'ry kinde of death doth not  
deſerue a Martyrs name:

**¶** But many ſundry deaths do bring  
the dyers endles ſhame

**¶** All Theeues and Murderers that dye  
all Fellons caſt by law:

**¶** All Traitors and all Hereticks  
which GOD nor man do aſw.

**¶** Are not by death of theirs in count  
of Martyrs which do dye:

**¶** Though Papists brag that he is one  
but giue them leaue to lye.

**¶** The death doth not the Martyr make  
but ſure the righteous cauſe:

**¶** When Tirants force, the righteous hare  
to violate Gods lawes.

**¶** When Infidelles deſpauie the trueth  
and Chriſtians it maintain:

**¶** In giuing of their bloods for it,  
they win the Martyrs gain.

**¶** Ignatius wan the noble crown  
of martirdomy tho

**¶** Caſſianus and Laurence they  
did win the ſame alſo.

**¶** Saint Stephen and Saint Peter they  
wan Martyrs gain by right:

So did Maturus and the rest  
 that suffred for the light.  
 ¶ Whose liues by truthe were soundly led  
 whose ends did shew no lesse:  
 whose māers were bright, whose faith  
 did perfit loue expresse.  
 ¶ But Feltons life did shew in fine  
 he did no Martyrs fact:  
 For exitus acta probat  
 the exit tries the act.  
 ¶ A roisting thisting Prodigall  
 so he his time did spend:  
 Which sought of eu'ry one to haue  
 that able was to lend.  
 ¶ The Psalmist in his Psalmes doth paine  
 out Felton very plain:  
 The wicked man borrowes (saith he)  
 and payeth not again.  
 ¶ Of modestie in maners he  
 was seen to be full scant:  
 And of Religious minde no doubt  
 he had a dayly want.  
 ¶ As for deuoutnes in his dayes  
 yea, after his owne sorte:  
 He neuer mould his sprites with prayer,  
 his hart was set on sport.  
 ¶ A Papists hart he had not sure  
 for Papists are deuout:  
 Although their zeale in knowledge lack  
 in that they go about.

**F**oꝛ he ne fele ne knowledgē had,  
but dꝛoue to spend the time:

He past not with what kinde of men  
noꝛ of what kinde of cryme.

**S**o he by flattering might obtain  
to liue by others sweat:

**H**e Lands he had ne hands did seeke  
to get the bread he eat.

**B**ut heer & there with Thraſoes he wꝛ  
the simple to deride:

But cheef a scoffer of Gods wꝛd  
as often he was tride.

**A** Plesemē right which seru'd by time  
though fed with Romish hope:

And now beholde the Saint he seru'd  
hath blest him with a Rōpe.

**A** ſoule bewitcht he was of some  
who watcht the falling Skies.

And lokt foꝛ Larkes but purpose mist  
his flesh must feed the Flyes.

**A**n irreligious Traitor was  
this Felton, trust me true:

A fit resembler in our time  
of Eleazar the Iew.

**C**ompanion with Ichocanan  
nay Schimions equal mate:

**W**hich sought Iherusalem to spoile  
by their discentious bate.

**A**nd as foꝛ any signe that was  
in him of godly feare:

His moste licencious life did shew  
his hart came neuer there.

¶ Till at his very end where as  
he saw it would not bee:

But that he must as Traitor rank  
go scale the Gallow tree.

¶ Then fear of death gan prick his fleshy  
whiche wicked men doth touch:

¶ While their ill cause, their conscience pricks  
and burthens them to much.

¶ As Cain and Iudas ouer fraid  
with Gods eternal ire:

¶ Yet some will say that Felton did  
Gods mercy then desire.

¶ In deed in Popish soze he shewd  
him self then to relent:

But who can say he shewd such faith  
as made him right repent?

¶ Of wandring faith he shewd soe taste  
as Papists' vse to holde:

¶ That Christe their sauloz is in parte,  
but faith was not (be bolde)

¶ In him that made him then to say  
Christe is my saulour:

¶ He that he trusted only sure  
saluation by his power.

¶ He cald he back his sclandero' words,  
he spake against Gods truthe:

¶ He did gainsay his traitterous blasse  
before bothe age and youth.

which



Which he had spoke agaiſt our Queen  
before in Iudgement hall:

But only ſo; this ſac heer down,  
her mercy I do call.

(ſaid he) ſo; this offence of mine  
heer down that ſhe ſo; giue:

But from the reſt againſt her power  
and Ehzone he bid not meue.

He had before denide her grace  
our lawſul Queen to bee:

And of her Supreme power (he ſaid)  
ſhe ought not haue it thee.

Oh traiterous hart, oh Martyr bile,  
ſuch Martyrs now a dayes:

Would ſain be made to ſto;ter thin  
to ſtop the hollow wayes.

He neuer once relented this  
not once before his death:

But as malicious Traitor, he  
on Gallows gaue his bzeth.

Whether as he ſaid in miſt Guilde Hall,  
before the Iudgement ſeat:

That they might wel his body take,  
but more they could not get.

For why: his ſoule he had commit  
vnto his hollow hope:

To Ieſus Chriſte: to him think yee  
nay to his dad the Pope.

Oh Traitor bolde to Chriſte God  
oh proud blaſphemous tung:

That euer popish ignorance  
Should rest in olde or yung.

¶ When Christe hath shed his dearest blood  
When Christes hart was rent:

¶ When Christe hath paid the price for vs  
his Father to content.

¶ Shall we once dare alas to say,  
when other name is none:

¶ But Iesus Christe to saue our soules  
by his deer death alone?

¶ That Pius Pope our soules can saue  
which can not saue him self:

¶ But yeld his power to mortal death  
oh blinded Romish elf.

¶ Was Paule for vs once crucified?  
was Mary, Mark or Iohn?

¶ No, no, it was our Iesus Christe  
to whom be praise alone.

¶ But Papists make of him least count,  
which took the greatest pain:

¶ And all their trust is still in them  
that giue the smallest gain.

¶ If Felton had those words denied,  
though euen at the last end:

¶ I would haue said and many mo,  
he had been Christes friend.

¶ His death was nothing Martir like,  
he died a Papist blinde:

¶ An Enemy to Christe and Queen,  
a Monster out of kinde.

**A** new ftert by Herostratus,  
 to get himself a name:  
**T**hough that his deed and end shal be  
 ay to his endles shame.  
**F**or as the fame of Godly men  
 shall ouerlue the graue:  
**S**o Fame doth yeld to wicked men  
 the right that they should haue.  
**W**o long as Guilde Hall doth remain,  
 there shall remain like wise:  
**A** memozy of Feltons facts,  
 befoze all peoples eyes.  
**I**ohn Felton Traitor which denied  
 the Queen our supzeme head:  
**I**ohn Felton Traitor which aduanc't  
 the Pope his Bul of lead.  
**I**ohn Felton Traitor which did seek  
 a fozren power to place:  
**A**gainst our Queen Elizabeth,  
 high Treason to her grace.  
**I**ohn Felton Traitor which so railed  
 against the Iudges graue:  
**I**ohn Felton Traitor, which denied  
 his Iudgement foz to haue.  
**H**ea if that men doe want to read  
 the Libelles that are writ:  
**T**he pauing stones wil witness bear  
 his Treason to requit.  
**H**is Blasphemyes, his raging spite,  
 his bzainles wilful talke,

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7  
Dame Fame with Echo shall resound  
in eu'ry caue to walke.

¶ John Felton Papist heer was raisnd,  
that Traisterous rebel meer:

That faithles man, that Hypocrite  
receiued Iudgement heer.

¶ So long as Newgate stands in sight,  
his memozy shall last:

And witness bear what blasphemies  
out of his mouth he cast.

¶ When learned men & Preachers graue  
bestowd their learned pain:

To win his Soule to Iesus Christe  
how he did them disdain.

¶ How obstinately he did rest  
in his unskilful minde:

That none could him perswade to see  
he was so wilful blinde.

¶ That shall the Stones of Newgate tel,  
if Papists would denye:

And how he did aduance the Pope  
whiche made him sence so hye.

¶ Refusing counsel of Gods Book  
none could perswade his hart:

An any point to trust the truth  
wherby he should conuert.

¶ The sayers there in mozne can tel  
how Preachers did exhort:

That he would change his wilful minde  
in Christe the strongest Fort.

But

**B**ut still he said, I am right wel  
perswaded sure I:  
And as I am perswaded, so  
I mene in that to dye.  
**I**n Christe if his perswasion were  
no dout therewas no shame:  
But that vnto the Church of GOD  
he might haue tolde the same.  
**F**or (Corde creditur) saith Paule  
with hart to think makes iust:  
But (Ore fit) Confession is  
saluacion sure to trust.  
**B**ut his Confession there did tel,  
what faith was in his minde:  
Vnto his saviour Iesus Christe  
truly but small to finde  
But to the Pope that horned beaſt  
his hart was first ful sure:  
And it to leaue while life did last  
none could him once procure.  
**T**he Drazle wheron he lay fast bound  
in midſt olde baily ſtreet:  
ſhall tel that Preachers words for ay  
which then there did him meet.  
**O**h Felton (said he) now relent  
now doth appoche the time:  
When it wilbe to late for thee  
for to repent thy crime.  
**N**ow yeld to Christe, trust in his blood  
deſpy the Pope and all

Deſpy

Defy his Bulles and Pardons bile,  
which haue begun thy thzall.

**G**OD yet doth offer thee his grace,  
Christe Iesus spredes his armes:

Yet to recetue thy soule to grace  
and to pzenent thy harmes.

**B**ut he as graceles heeld on still  
in latin Prayers tho:

And gaue no eare vnto the man  
that did exhort him so.

**A**t last the Preacher said again,  
oh Felton yet forsake

Thine errors blinde, by Iesus Christe  
a perfit end to make.

**A**s thogh (said he) moste stoutly then,  
ye would the People blase:

And make them think I died not wel  
this said he without maze.

**S**o may they think (quod he again)  
except thou do repent:

Because against bothe Christe & Queen,  
thy Treason thou hast bent.

**O**h iudge me not (quod Felton then)  
I'll iudge (quod th'other) thee:

For Christe hath taught me by the frute,  
alwayes to iudge the Tree.

**W**hile thou art hær I iudge thy deed  
but GOD shall iudge thee ay:

And if thou do not now repent,  
Wel fire shalbe thy pay.

**A**ll this benigntie of GOD,  
this Felton did dispise:

And gaue no ear til as he saw  
the Gallows with his eyes.

**W**hich Gallow trees in Paules Church  
shall tel the endles shame: (the part  
Of Felton there for Treason hangd  
to peril of his name.

**A**nd eke the Ground shall witness bear  
how Conscience his was bized:

By Preachers, which by truthe did hope  
his hart then to haue purged.

**B**ut GOD (I think) had the shut by  
the bowelles of his grace:

To him, whose stubborn hart besore  
refusde truthe to imbrace.

**F**or Misere on his knees  
all trembling he did say:

But softly to him self that few  
could hear what he did pray.

**B**elike he thought as Papists doe,  
the Latin to excel:

And so he thought his prayer said  
therin to be ful wel.

**F**or he did neuer once desire  
Gods people to assist

Him in his prayers he then made,  
but did euen as he list.

**M**uch les then to repent his fall  
and turn to GOD by grace:

On Ladder he gan speke alowd,  
maintaining of his cace.

And purg'd his hart of Treason quite  
that euer it was clér:

Which when the worthy Sherif heard,  
he said that all might hear.

Felton, a moze malicious feat  
of Treason neuer was:

Then thou a Traitor rāk hast wꝛought  
and falsly bꝛought to passe.

Then was he hanged by a wible,  
in what a cace GOD knowes:

Such as haue iudgement in the act,  
I leaue the end to those.

Cut down he was and liu'd again,  
but after spake not much:

Foꝝ why? the Executioner seru'd  
him but a Traitors ruck.

Es no god signe in life oꝝ death  
of any Chꝛistian minde:

But as he liu'd (I say) he died  
a peruerst Papist blinde.

But this may make the Papists ioy,  
that they had one so stout:

Foꝝ their Religion and their loue,  
to passe such tozments out:

But let them stay, Religion was  
no cause why he so died:

But sure because the English lawes  
a Traitor rank him tried.



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ed,

ght

¶ He would haue made Religion  
his plea when he was brought  
To his examination,  
but that preuaile him nought.  
¶ For his Religion he had not  
to dele with him at all:  
But for high Treason he was iudged,  
in midst of the Guilde Hall.  
¶ And when he saw Religious scuse  
could not his torment stay:  
But that he must by force of Law  
to Traitors death obey.  
¶ Such Spirit him led as in him was  
moste wilfully to stand  
Against Gods truthe whiche now is  
thzoughout this Britain Land. (preache  
¶ So, sometimes GOD for sinners sakes  
doth giue the Deuil power:  
To holde mens mindes in error fast,  
that he should them deuoure.  
¶ And Sathan is so false him self  
that he can soon infect  
All such with vile Hypocrisie  
whom GOD wil so reiect.  
¶ But sure I thinke if Treason had  
not brought him to his death:  
Religion neuer was so deer  
to him as t'end his breth.  
¶ For neuer yet was heard or seen  
for such Religions sake:

be

Ch.

That

That any only haue been brought  
to dye at Block or Stake.  
Full many of that godles seg  
haue been attainted sure;  
And haue for Treason suffered smarte  
as Law doth right procure.  
And haue in iudgement and in death  
as destitute of grace;  
Continued as this Felton did  
which makes me rue his case.  
For sure his bodys death I nought  
at all did then lament:  
But death of body and of soule  
doth make my hart relent.  
Beware ye papists all take heed  
I read you yet beware:  
And cast all Popery from your harts  
take heed of hellish roze.  
And if you will not, yet be true  
to GOD and our good Queen:  
I pray to GOD that all your endes  
as Feltons may be seen.  
And GOD saue Queen Elizabeth  
from Papists will and power:  
That sharpened sword by Gospelles force  
may all her foes deuoure.

Amen. ¶ T. Knel. Iuni.